

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend Paragraph [0038] as follows:

FIGS. 18A and 18B is-a are perspective views of the bone fastener with a further embodiment in accordance with the invention;

Please amend Paragraph [0067] as follows:

In FIG. 18A, a bone fastener in accordance with an alternative embodiment of the present disclosure is generally shown as 550. Bone fastener 550 is a rivet like structure including a curved cylindrical rivet body 552 and a corresponding curved elongated mandrel 554 slidably disposed within and extending through rivet body 552. Rivet body 552 includes a collar 556 formed at a proximal end thereof which acts as a stop thereby preventing rivet body 552 from passing completely through a pair of co-axial holes formed in a pair of adjacent facets. Mandrel 554 includes an enlarged head 558, which enlarged head 558 deforms the distal end of rivet body 552 when mandrel 554 is pulled through rivet body 552, as illustrated in FIG. 18B. In use, rivet body 552 is inserted through the pair of co-axial holes formed in the pair of facets until collar 556 contacts the surface of the facet and until enlarged head 558 projects out from the second facet. Mandrel 554 is then pulled proximally through rivet body 552 thereby deforming the distal end of rivet body 552 against the surface of the facet and securing the facets to one another.